

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 2-13 are pending. By this response, claims 1, 4-6 and 8-12 are amended and claim 2 canceled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

### **Allowable Claims**

Applicants appreciate the indication of claim 13 as being allowed and claims 2-12 as containing allowable subject matter. Applicants note that claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 2 thus placing claim 1 in condition for allowance.

### **Prior Art Rejection**

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Adcock et al. (US 3,020,128). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 2. Thus, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and the above-noted rejection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

### **Conclusion**

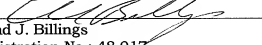
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3-13 are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 6, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Chad J. Billings  
Registration No.: 48,917  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000  
Attorney for Applicant